RAZORS

This is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/GB00/00480 with an international filing date of February 14, 2000.

This invention relates to the field of shaving and, more especially, to so-called "wet shaving" in the process of which a razor with one or more sharpened cutting edges is moved over the skin to sever hairs projecting from the skin. In association with wet shaving it is usual to apply to the skin a preparation, such as shaving soap, which can be applied by means of a brush, shaving foam or shaving gel to improve the conditions for actual shaving. The need to prepare the skin in this way as part of the overall shaving procedure is an inconvenience and adds significantly to the time required to complete a satisfactory shave. It is also desirable sometimes to apply fluids of other kinds to the skin when shaving.

There have been many proposals for razors which include a system for conveying a shaving preparation, e.g., a lubricating fluid, from a reservoir incorporated in the razor structure, such as an aerosol container which serves as the razor handle, to a dispensing location near the head of the razor. However, as far as known to the Applicant none of these prior proposals have been found to be commercially acceptable. Many modern safety razors have blade units which are movably mounted, in particular pivotable, relative to the handle structures on which they are mounted either permanently, in the case of disposable safety razors intended to be discarded when the blade or blades have become dulled, or detachably to allow replacement of the blade unit on a reusable handle structure. The lubricant fluid delivery systems proposed according to the prior art are not ideally suited to such razors. In addition they are generally awkward to use and demand a degree of dexterity on the part of the user who typically is required to press a button to open a valve for fluid to be discharged from the reservoir for delivery to the razor head.

Some examples of previously proposed razors with fluid delivery